

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In the parent case (09/539,061), the Examiner allowed claims 1-21 and rejected claims 22-29 as obvious over Datta in view of Applicants' alleged admitted prior art. To expedite issuance of the allowed claims, Applicants canceled the rejected claims 22-29. Applicants submit this preliminary amendment and continuation application to prosecute claims 22-29 as well as new claims 30-31.

Applicants amended claims 22 and 26 to require, among other limitations, writing "a first sleep type to a first register to specify the low power state for the host processor" and pointing "the host processor to an instruction that, when executed, causes the host processor to write a second sleep type to a second register that controls the power state of the microcontroller, wherein said second sleep type is not recognized by the microcontroller." These features are not taught or suggested by the art of record. At least for these reasons, claims 22-29 and their dependent claims are allowable.

Applicants also added dependent claims 30 and 31 which depend from claims 22 and 26, respectively. Claims 30 and 31 require the execution of the instruction "that, when executed, causes the host processor to write a second sleep type to a second register that controls the power state of the microcontroller, wherein said second sleep type is not recognized by the microcontroller." The art of record does not teach or suggest this feature. Claims 30 and 31 are patentable for this reason as well.

If any fees or time extensions are inadvertently omitted or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Hewlett-Packard Company Deposit Account Number 08-2025 and enter any time extension(s) necessary to prevent this case from being abandoned.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan M. Harris", is written over a horizontal line.

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